## TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office

May 28, 1997 LB 798

The bill may not be in a condition where there can be any agreement on it. And, if that's the case, this is opportunity to avoid taking a lot of time of the Legislature. Senator Schimek, I'm just such a good guy today, I can hardly stand myself. Senator Tyson, I can hardly stand myself. If you were this good, I couldn't stand you either. (Laugh.) But, any rate, there have been back and forth negotiations, if you can call them that, and they have gotten nowhere. So what I'm going to do, because I had not been a part of the discussions earlier, is just make sure this bill doesn't go anywhere. not convinced that this process for making decisions about what's going to happen with these hospitals and facilities such a bad thing. As I listen to the discussion on General File, each side was giving reasons, as will always happen, for When the status quo is being altered, there their position. ought to be compelling reasons given to do that. thing that should be shown is that there is some harm, if it can be shown that harm exists. If it cannot be shown that harm exists, then there should be a showing that a better way is available, and therefore what currently exists should be chucked aside and this better way put in place. I don't know that that was shown to everybody's satisfaction. But if those on both sides of this contentious issue had tangled on it, Senator Tyson, and looked at all of the major aspects of the issue and reached an agreement, by them watching each other suspiciously there would be a certain assurance the public could have that maybe neither would take advantage of the public. When all of that breaks down, and now we have those who are going to be the sentinels, each watching the other, no longer fulfilling that role, the thing to do is to say that there might be raging waters all around me, but at least where my feet are standing now the land is dry, the rock is firm, it is unmoving. step off this rock, maybe there is only an inch of water, but because the surface is so tumultuous, I cannot see how deep this water is. On the other hand, and not being able to swim, not knowing whether the water might be deep enough for me to drown in, because it would be above my head and I can't swim or float, I won't step into the water. As long as I stand where I am, I'm safe, sound and secure. My bracket motion would put off consideration of this bill until June 12th. What will happen during that time is a coming together for one purpose or another of the contending factions. The expression that I like to use,